

Message Text

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44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INRE-00

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O 240825Z APR 76 CORRECTED COPY FOR MCN

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1589

C NFMRSZGC/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 956

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRNVRITY ZOWWMR

AMCONSULEJYKMARA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 11489

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: CISCO 2 - NIMEIRI COMMENTS TO BRITISH AMBASSADOR

REF:KHARTOUM 1176

1. EARLY APRIL 24 BRITISH AMBASSADOR PHILLIPS PROVIDED ME ADDITIONAL DETAILS OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH NIMEIRI APRIL 22 ON HOSTAGE CASES (REFTEL). HE SAID NIMEIRI HAD TOLD HIM THAT ERITREAN REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN TOLD OF AMERICAN AND BRITISH APPROACHES AND OF NIMEIRI'S OWN INTEREST IN SEEING THE PRISONERS RELEASED ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS. NIMEIRI CONTINUED THAT HE WAS VERY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT EARLY RELEASE BURWOOD-TAYLOR BECAUSE ERITREANS FELT THAT BRITISH GOVERNMENT WAS UNSYMPATHETIC TOWARD EPMG. USG, ON OTHER HAND, WAS KNOWN TO HAVE SUPPLIED ARMS TO EPMG BUT NIMEIRI NEVERTHELESS HOPED HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS MIGHT PREVAIL AND AMERICANS ALSO BE RELEASED.

2. ACCORDING PHILLIPS, BRITISH JOURNALIST GWYNNEE ROBERTS, PHOTOGRAPHER DOWNEY AND FATHER OF ONE OF THEM, WHO IS DOCTOR, WILL BE ARRIVING KHARTOUM LATE APRIL 26. HE WILL TAKE SAME LINE WITH GOS ABOUT PRIVATE NATURE CONFIDENTIAL

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THEIR VISIT AS WILL WE VIS-A-GUS CAMPBELLS (PAR 2, STATE 098180). PHILLIPS ADDED THAT BRITISH IN ADDIS DO NOT PLAN MENTION ROBERTS/DOWNEY MISSION TO EPMG SINCE LATTER AWARE THESE JOURNALISTS WELL REGARED BY ERITREANS. BREWER

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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